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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Yugoslavia

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SUBJECT The Ravna Reka Coal Mine

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1. The Ravna Reka coal mine is situated on the western slopes of the Homol Mountains. The mine has a road connection with the town of Senj, and is connected with the Senj coal mine by an overhead ropeway. This ropeway passes through a small wood, approximately 11 kilometers from Ravna Reka, which is owned by the Mine Directorate, and from which timber is obtained for pit props for Ravna Reka as well as the Senj coal mines.
2. The mine is administered by a manager who is controlled by the Directorate of the Senj coal basin which is subordinate to the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of Serbia in Belgrade.
3. The annual planned production figures for the past two years were as follows:

1949 - 130,000 tons
1950 - 125,000 tons

The total output for 1949 amounted to 105,000 tons. The output for January and February 1950, was 18,000 tons. The mine has failed to complete its norms since 1945. The entire output is transported by the overhead ropeway to the separation plant at the Senj coal mine. From there it is distributed to the industrial and railroad establishments in the Rankovicevo and Skoplje districts.

4. The total reserves, estimated in 1944, amounted to two million tons of lignite, of average calorific value 5,000 calories. However, survey and research work carried out since 1945 proved that the reserves exceed the 1944 estimate.
5. The main factors limiting production are:
 - a. Frequent underground fires.
 - b. Continual fluctuation of labor caused by the bad working conditions.
 - c. Poor discipline among miners.
6. The mine is gradually being developed, and during the past three or four

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years has been supplied with new machinery and equipment, including electric boring machines from Russia, crabs, pumps, compressors, turning lathes and electric motors. A number of workers' houses have been built in the colony. Apart from the normal equipment and machinery, the mine has 87 built-up induction motors of 380 volts. These are of Rade Koncar, Sever, Ganz, A.E.G., Acea and General Motors manufacture.

7. The mine's workshops are composed of the following:
 - a. Smithy
 - b. Locksmith's shop
 - c. Lathe shop
 - d. Joiners' shop
 - e. Welding shop, equipped with electric and oxy-acetylene equipment.
8. The mine is supplied with power from the thermal power plant at the Senj coal mine. The power is carried by an overhead high tension cable.
9. The mine has a rescue station equipped with ten Eckhardt safety apparatus of Czech origin, masks, and artificial Pulmotor revivers.
10. The total number of employees is approximately 1,860 which includes about 200 forced laborers. The mine works three 8-hour shifts per day. Owing to its failure to complete the norms, the work in the mine is almost continuous. The mine and its installations are guarded by a detachment of National Militia.
11. The manager of the mine is Josef Tancic, a Serb. He is believed to be anti-Communist.